**STEP OUT: Amazed by Jesus (Mark 1:21-28)**

***Pastor Tan Moy How***

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God! “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”  News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. (Mark 1:21-28)

Introduction

The word ‘amazement’ is defined as ‘strong feeling of astonishment or wonder’. King Solomon recorded the following:

“There are three things that are too amazing for me,

four that I do not understand:

the way of an eagle in the sky,

the way of a snake on a rock,

the way of a ship on the high seas,

and the way of a man with a maiden.”

(Proverbs 30:18-19)

**Big Idea**

**“Be amazed by Jesus as you Step Out in obedience!”**

Amazed By

# **Jesus’ Teachings**

“They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach.  The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.” (Mark 1:21-22)

‘Capernaum’ means ‘village of comfort’. Jesus is the Great Comforter. No one has ever spoken like Jesus has. The teachings of Jesus provoked amazement by those who heard it. He did not teach like the teachers of the law. He taught as One Who had authority.

## Jesus taught as one who had authority

“They came to him and said, “Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not? Should we pay or shouldn’t we?” But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. “Why are you trying to trap me?” he asked. “Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.” They brought the coin, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?” “Caesar’s,” they replied. Then Jesus said to them, “Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.” And they were amazed at him. (Mark 12:14-17)

Within a split moment, Jesus’ answer astounded them. This kind of wisdom can only come from above, from divine revelation. No one ever talked in quite the same way.

## Jesus’ teaching not of human origin

Jesus said,

“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. (Luke 6:27-28)

Those who heard this were amazed.

# **Jesus’ Power**



“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. (Mark 1:24-26)

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”  News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. (Mark 1:27, 28)

There is no long prayer, or School of Leadership’s Spiritual Warfare; just the authority of the Word of the Son of God.

## Jesus’ power demonstrated through His authoritative word

“Be quiet! Come out of him!” (Mark 1:25)

Only six words – ‘Be quiet; come out of him!”

## Jesus triumphs over evil.

 “The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.” (Mark 1:26)

If you have experienced the heavenly quality of Jesus’ teachings, it should be very natural for the knowledge of Jesus Christ to flow out from us.

# **Jesus’ Effect**

“News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.” (Mark 1:28)

In Mark 7, verses 31-37, it was recorded that Jesus went along the Sea of Galilee, teaching, proclaiming the Gospel, healing the sick and setting the oppressed free. Then he went to the mountainside and set down where He fed the 4,000. This took place in Tyre and Sidon, which are Gentile areas.

“Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.  The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.” (Matthew 15:30-31)

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”  They went out and preached that people should repent.  They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them. (Mark 6:6-13)

We see the appointment of the 72, and He sent them out two by two ahead of Him to every town and place where He was about to go, telling them that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send His workers to the field. Jesus has given us the authority, boldness and courage, and that surely, He is with us to the very end of age.

**“You will never cease to be the most amazed person on earth at what God has one for you on the inside.” ~ Oswald Chambers**

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Sermon summary contributed by May

Prayer points contributed by Prudence Tay



SERMON: Amazed By Jesus

**Pray:**

* May we always be amazed and in awe of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
* We will find new wonders in the teachings of Jesus.
* As we are amazed by Jesus’ power, we will realise that He has also given power in His name to do even greater things.
* We will Step Out and show those around us this amazing love of Jesus.

***The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”  News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. (Mark 1:27-28)***

**MINISTRIES & EVENTS: Mission Trips**

*Crosssfields have planned several mission trips for this year of 2017. The trips in the first quarter are to the Iban in Sarawak (March 18 – 26), Penan in Sarawak (March 19 – 24), Nepal (April 20 – 30) and Myanmar (April 28 – May 5).*

**Pray:**

* In this year of “Step Out” DUMC members will sign up to go for the mission trips.
* All the planned mission trips will have sufficient team members and team leaders.
* The teams will be sensitive and obedient to the Holy Spirit as they plan their individual trip programs.
* Each team will be a blessing to the people and the land that they go to.

***He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. (Mark 16:15)***

MALAYSIA MY NATION: Floods

*The flood situation in Malaysia is still ongoing. States like Kelantan and Terengganu the water levels have receded somewhat but the situation seems to be getting worst in Johor. The continues wet weather during this time, when it should be hot and dry, is not helping the situation.*

**Pray:**

* Protection for the people during this wet weather even as some people travel back home during the holidays.
* Flood water levels will recede so that people can get on with their lives.
* The authorities will take proactive actions to reduce and prevent further flooding.
* The rakyat will be responsible and not make the situation worst by indiscriminatingly throwing rubbish and waste.
* People in other parts of the nation will volunteer to help those affected in the cleaning up process.

***For You have been a defence for the helpless, A defence for the needy in his distress, A refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; For the breath of the ruthless Is like a rain storm against a wall. (Isaiah 25:4)***

* **A TRANSFORMED WORLD: USA**

*USA now has a new president, Donald Trump. There have been demonstrations within the USA and even in other countries, protesting against him as USA president. Several new policies against accepting immigrants from certain countries have been made and this weekend, there were immigrants with approved papers who have been detained at the airport.*

**Pray:**

* Wisdom for President Donald Trump as he reviews his countries policies and attempt to make USA safer for its citizens.
* Godly men and women to surround Donald Trump giving him sound advice.
* May he also seek God for wisdom and direction.
* He will appoint the right people for the various vacant positions.
* He will be wise in his response to issues, criticism and even attacks.
* He will be able to build good relationships will leaders of other countries.
* USA citizens will give their new president time before they dismiss him and say that he is not right for the job.

***But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. (James 3:17)***